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Over 5,000 people watched the spectacle of Soorasamharam of Sri Kapaleswarar Temple, Mylapore on Thursday evening and got to pray to lord Muruga seated in a colourful, flower-decked 'ther' on North Mada Street.

● READ SPOT REPORT - www.mylaporetimes.com

● SCAN QR Code here to watch Videos by Madhan Kumar



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SRIRANGAM KSHETRAM: TALK, DISCOURSE, CONCERTS

Aranga Nagar Vaazha is a series of thematic programmes on Srirangam Kshetram and is being organized by Sri Ranga Academy of Fine Arts at Arkay Convention Center, Mylapore. These are open to all. Here is the schedule –

Program 1: Nov 9 – Saturday – 9:30 am
 Thyagaraja Swami's Sriranga Vijayam: A musical discourse about life events and experiences of Thyagarajar during a pilgrimage to Srirangam, presented by U. Ve. Sri Embar R. Kasturi swamy and team



Program 2: Nov 9 – Saturday – 11:30 a.m.
 Padinmar Paadum Perumal: Group singing of Divya Prabandhams in the musical tradition known as Devaganam, focusing on Thiruvavangam Pasurams of Azhwars, presented by Srirama Bharati and disciples (STD Patasala).
 Program 3: Nov 10 – Sunday – 9:30 a.m.
 Bhuloka Vaikuntam: An illustrated lecture on the History, Culture, Architecture and Sculpture of Srirangam by historian Dr. Chithra Madavan.
 Program 4: Nov 10 – Sunday – 11:30 a.m.
 Sriranga Shayinam: A thematic vocal concert centring compositions on Sri Ranganathar from the works of pre-Trinity composer, Margadarshi Shesha Iyengar, presented by Prema Rangarajan and team.

FOCUS ON DIKSHITAR

The 10th edition of the Muthuswami Dikshitar celebration by Guruguhaamrta is on Nov.10, whole-day long, at Raga Sudha Hall, Luz. Nagaswaram, concerts, talks and lec-dems lined up. Aswath Narayan performs at 7 pm. Open to all

DANCER WANTS SONGS FROM TEENS

Senior Bharatanatyam dancer Narthaki Nataraj invites teens who are learning classical music to send her a song you know best: she will choose the three best ones and dance to that song and share a video.



Her Velliambalam Trust and Pachyderm Tales are collaborating. Any person under 18 can participate. The audio version should be sent by mail with the details including name of the including name of the singer, class and school. E-mail – pachydermtales@gmail.com. Last date of submission – Nov 13



BOOK ON NALLI KUPPUSWAMY

A book on Nalli Kuppaswamy is to be released on Nov. 9 at Chettinad Vidyashram campus on the eve of this silks and arts promoter's 85th birthday. The event starts at 6 p.m. K. J. Suryanarayanan has authored the book which will be released by N. Ravi.

MYLAPORE TIMES CIRCULATION CONTACT

 If you regularly get a copy of Mylapore Times every Saturday but find the boy has skipped your gate one week or the next, call our staff, **4766 2029**.
 On Saturdays, bet 11 am and 5 pm.

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Editorial & Publishing Office:
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Editor & Publisher - Vincent D'Souza
Community Reporter - Baskar Seshadri
Internet Design, Input - C. Parameshvaran
Photographer - M. Madhan Kumar
Designer - S. Prema
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Have info to share here?
 Mail - mytimesedit@gmail.com

Sringeri acharya in Mandaveli on Nov.9

The Jagadguru of Sringeri Saradha Peetam who has been camping in Chennai and also visiting a few places for religious and social events, will be at Sringeri Pravachana Mandiram, Mandaveli at 10 a.m. on Nov.9.

Here, dharshan and pada pooja has been arranged in Sringeri Mutt in Mandaveli that day. The Sri Chandra-mouliswarar puja will be performed by the acharya.

A note from the acharya's PR unit says - His Holiness will be arriving at Sringeri



Pravachana Mandiram on Saturday at 10 am. Dharshan and padapooja for devotees after Dhulipada Pooja are arranged.

This will be followed by Sri Chandramouliswarar Pooja by His Holiness at 12 pm.

There will be a Seva counter in the Sringeri Pravachana Mandiram for purchase of tickets Biksha Kanikkai Samarpanam Pada pooja and all other sevas..

Jagadguru visits V-Excel campus in Mandaveli

The Jagadguru visited V-Excel Educational Trust campus, a unit of Sringeri Sharada Peetham Charitable Trust at its Thiruvengadam Street campus in Mandaveli earlier this week.

This property was donated by late Sadanand.

The acharya visited the Early Interven-

tion Centre that aids development in children below 8 years who have developmental delays in speech, language, cognition, and neuromuscular function and also visited the remedial centre, Kaleidoscope Learning Centre and vocational training unit.

He took time to look at the artworks displayed here.

The acharya also blessed the construction of a new V-Excel building in Solapur, Maharashtra and gave prasadam to every child and blessed their families.

V-Excel is committed to the education and empowerment of children and young adults with developmental disabilities: it was founded in 2001 by Dr. Vasudha Prakash, and is managed by team of experienced multi-disciplinary rehabilitation professionals.

- Inputs for this report from Praveen N Rao.

Photo: V-Excel



Deepavali Decor Contest gets limited response

The Deepavali Decor Contest for Mylaporeans from *Mylapore Times* got a lukewarm response. And the judge who scanned the limited entries felt they be given souvenirs.

The next contest for Mylaporeans will be associated with Karthigai Deepam; asking families to set 4/5 lit oil lamps with flowers and leaves around them to make the arrangement appealing.

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VINCENT'S JOTTINGS

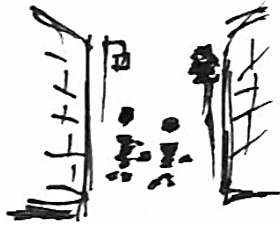
By VINCENT D' SOUZA

Azhagarwami was driving me in his taxi. His small frame had sunk into that seat of his at the wheel. He must be 35. And he lives in this car, a Swift Dzire, all of 22.5 hours daily.

Like the hundreds of drivers who have signed up to major service providers. This man to Red Taxi.

When the clock turns to 9 at night, he has to choose to head to either Porur or Tambaram. "They offer the best restrooms of Chennai's civic body," he says.

He can excrete and bathe in peace. For 20 bucks. He can give his soiled clothes to a woman here to get them washed and dried, for 25 bucks. Ten bucks to iron them. And he can park the car close by and fall asleep; between midnight and 5 am.



Hundreds of Azhagars in our city follow this life.

I encourage him to go back to Aruppukottai, his hometown. Use his taxi he has purchased on a loan, to ride in Madurai, tap into the tourist market there. He could save more and run home often! He says he will make some money here and get back.

"The first three days after I got here were crazy," he tells me. "I couldn't recognise any place, I didn't know where to park and if I did they drove me off and I couldn't find a place to sleep in my car."

These people are the engines of the city today.

It is closer to 7 a.m.

The MTC buses from the areas of Kannagi Nagar and Perumbakkam motoring through Adyar and into R. A. Puram are packed with people; some men and women headed north, on work.

Many are women who will soon alight at various bus stops. Some near Rohini Gardens, some at Pattinapakkam, some in San Thome. They will quickly walk into the areas alongside the busy bus route road and head to their workspots.

These are women who once used to work as maids in the apartments and bungalows of Mylapore zone, were uprooted from here and given housing on the south fringes. They continue to work as maids. Some in their 50s, some 60-year-olds, want to be at their old work haunts. Safe environment, assured pay, some goodies at festival time, some small loans from their employers.

No, they do not wish to look for work in the fringes of their new homes. Mylapore zone is their second home now.

These people are the old engines which are still relevant to city life today.

They are at the core of neighbourhood life too. Have we noticed them a bit more closely?

LETTERS FROM READERS

E-MAIL your letters to - mytimesedit@gmail.com.
Provide full name and short address.

This column also contains comments posted on our social media pages.



Postcard idea was good

The postcard contest for children for Deepavali was a good idea. It must have introduced many children and their young parents to the post card and may motivate them to write to their families and friends rather than WhatsApp or call them all the time.

Mylapore Post Office can join hands with *Mylapore Times* to have more such events.

- Ravi Venky

BSNL: a senior customer suffers

My BSNL landline connection 044-24982959 has not been working since October 10. I have raised a complaint in their App but they closed the complaint without rectifying.

I have also sent multiple e-mails and have also raised a complaint in their toll-free number. While I was assured that it will be taken up on priority, no one has visited and rectified it. As a senior citizen, I am unable to continue following this up.

- Chandran K.

Police promise action in CIT Colony

The Residents' Welfare Association of CIT colony had a meeting with the assistant commissioner and other traffic police officials of E1 Mylapore station. The issues of illegally grouted barricades and outsiders' parking in the colony were discussed. The police have promised positive action.

- Ramdas Naik

Nageswara Rao Park is a Mess

It is rather distressing to note that the big community which uses Nageswara Rao Park has kept silent over its destruction. On one side, the drain project has messed up this green space and on the other, more structures are coming up. Why does a park need structures like gyms, 3 washrooms, two fountains and the rest? Why?

- Ramadorai S.

On Bombay Halwa House

Jambu's video on Bombay Halwa House brought up some memories. How can we forget the *basundi* and *samosa* with mint chutney here? We didn't get such great *basundi* elsewhere in the city after the closure of Bombay Halwa House

- Sudha

New Fish Market: Disappointed

I made my first visit to the modern fish market on Marina Loop Road on a weekday, around 11 am and was disappointed to find less than a dozen hawkers here. It may do well for all if the best shopping timings on weekdays and weekends are made known well so hawkers and shoppers stand to benefit. I chose to go to the state-run Fisheries Dept. stall in the city and bought good prawns.

- Pratap R.

MY STORY



What are Rituals? The Rajasthan Experience

By PRATHIBA JAIN

Writing "Rituals of Rajasthan" was both a journey of discovery and a tribute to my mother's wisdom.

She had a deep insight into rituals, often saying that they weren't just acts to perform but threads binding us to family and community.

Her approach to festivals was always calm and meaningful.

Diwali, for instance, wasn't about elaborate preparations but about family gathering together to light lamps, share a simple meal, and express gratitude.

Inspired by her, I traveled to rural Rajasthan, seeking to understand these

customs at their roots.

There, I saw people approach rituals as a natural part of life, unburdened by the elaborate expectations we often feel in cities.

Instead, they were integrated seamlessly into daily life, with offerings and celebrations aligned directly with the harvest and nature's rhythms.

One moment that stood out was when I asked villagers about the "correct" offering for Diwali.

I was told that there isn't one single ritual—offerings are guided by the season's crops.

This made me see rituals as flexible practices that evolve with time and lifestyle.

In cities, we sometimes view traditions as rigid, losing touch with their deeper meaning.

As one Bishnoi villager said, "Rituals are like a herd of sheep. If one falls into the well, the others will simply do the same."

Through this book, I hope to reconnect with the meaning behind "why we do," rather than merely "what to do."

If you wish to read this book, WhatsApp to order your copy at +91 9444020011. Rs 295 | Discounted price: Rs 250.

● Prathiba Jain is an author and translator of more than 25 books in English and Hindi, including award-winning cookbooks. She lives in Mylapore.

Like to set up theme kolu sets for *Mylapore Festival*? Call us

Would you like to create a small theme kolu for Sundaram Finance MYLAPORE FESTIVAL 2025?

The fest curators plan to have an indoor exhibition on Jan.11 and 12 of 10/12 theme kolus, each in an area of 4 x 5 ft set on simple tables. Using bommais, sets / lights.

Six families who set up eye-catching kolus at home for Navaratri have agreed to set their kolu themes for this show. We want 5/6 more Mylaporeans to join us.

The show will be held in Mylapore. Theme sets can be set up on Jan.10.



File photo

Keen? WhatsApp Ramya asap at 7559998741

Fire damages much of tea shop near Sai Baba temple

By Baskar Seshadri

It was a bad day for Ramakrishnan who runs a tea shop in Mylapore near the Sai Baba Temple.

As customers snacked here at lunch time on November 5, a fire broke out inside.

People who were around there attempted to douse the fire but could not succeed as the fire engulfed the shop.

The area is owned by the temple and Ramakrishnan has rented this space for his business for the past three years.

What caused the fire?

Since the gas stove and electrical switches were close to each other, the fire spread fast. But the cause is vague.

A fire service engine that arrived late, some 30 minutes after the fire broke out, did what best was left to do. Fortunately, the fire



did not spread to the row of shops hugging the temple wall.

Ramakrishnan said he has not insured his shop and he is in a big shock.

But it is not clear if his cooking space was secure and safe.

WHO WILL CHECK THESE DANGERS ON OUR PAVEMENTS?

There are many pavement-encroached food joints in the Mylapore zone which place gas cylinders on pavements and cook in the open; these pose real dangers to people.

The biryani and meat joints on R. K. Mutt Road and on Venkatakrisnan Road near MTC bus terminus.

Similar hawkers on either side of Luz Church Road near Mylapore Club.

Two chips and snacks makers on the Mada Streets, Mylapore.

These are just examples of 'live' dangers where mishaps could take a toll on human life.

Rarely are Chennai Corporation staff seen penalising food joints and clearing these 'dangers'.

ARE THERE SUCH DANGERS IN YOUR AREA? WhatsApp - 7305630727

One Mylapore policewoman's daily life

By Swathilika

The Mylapore police station on Kutchery Road was abuzz on the evening we were there.

A family was squabbling in front of the police women.

We were here to meet a police woman, to understand her daily work life. We were at the All-Women's Police Station in this complex. We observed how the policewoman ably handled the family's dispute,

STUDENTS REPORT

And then I got introduced to Jayaseelia. "These squabbles are a daily issue we handle," she said, as we sat aside to talk.

The All-Women's Police Station deals with issues related to the protection of women, children and domestic issues.

There are some serious cases that come up and Jayaseelia told me that the station had five convictions (including three people who got 20-year jail terms under the POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act).

The station shares the premises with other departments – Law & Order, Crime and Cyber Crime.

The police staff in this station have duties at the magistrate courts in Saidapet, at the special POCSO court and occasionally patrol and security for dignitaries.

They also lead awareness campaigns about cyber crime and offences against children at schools and public spaces.

Jayaseelia, who hails from Nagercoil, is in her 28th year of service and says she works on rotation shifts with her fellow officers. The first shift is from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the second, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

On some days, she works from 7 to 7. She gets no designated holidays, aside from the weekly breaks, and is provided with 12 days annual emergency leave.

Jayaseelia says she joined the police force for the respect she would acquire, besides benefitting from the accommodation and the salary.

Like all other officers, she has spent three years in each station she was posted to.

"I miss out on social and family functions due to the nature of my shift hours," she said.

She is now looking forward to a promotion as Sub-Inspector.



Missing man found dead in river

By Our Edit Team

An Adyarite who had gone 'missing' on Oct.30 was found dead in the Adyar river last Sunday. Police in Pattinapakam zone who were alerted to the 'missing man' case got to know of a body that was seen floating near the sand bar of the river near the 'broken bridge' off Besant Nagar and Srinivasapuram and had alerted the man's family members who recognised him. A note from the family said that Govindarajan had slipped near the river side and may have drowned.

He was a popular marathon runner and community activist and had headed an IT company too; the search for him on social media was furious and wide but leads did not come from that effort.

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THESE THREE MADE SWEETS AT HOME

By Preetha K.

Yes, fewer families make the effort to cook sweets and savouries at home at festival time.

There are a few though, who follow the tradition.

Here are three people in the Mylapore zone who enjoyed cooking sweetmeats for Deepavali.

SASIKALA

I reside in Kolavizhi Amman Street, Mylapore and we carry on the tradition of making some sweets for the festival at home. It may take time to do all this but it is worth it. This year, I made murukku, adhirasam, thathai, laddu and mixture at home.



KARPAGAM DHARMARAJAN

I live in Keshava Perumal West Street. Since I was born in Mylapore, I was named Karpagam, after the deity Karpagambal.

For every Deepavali, I make five sweet items, five avouries and Deepavali marundhu. This has been the practice in my mother's and in-laws' house. I have also been following this practice.

This year, I made badam burfi, wheat halwa, rava laddu, maal laddu, Deepavali marundhu, ribbon pakoda, thenkozhal, mullu thenkozhal, mixture and ompodi.



R. SANDHYA R.

I reside in Raheja Residency, MRC Nagar.

I enjoy making sweets for Deepavali. Every sweet has been made with sourced ingredients. Butter has been melted to make ghee. I have made these sweets at home as it is offered to God.

I made four sweets - Gulab jamun, Kaju-badam katli, Rava laddo and Milk Fudge.

Milk fudge is made from milk powder and pistachio. There is my secret recipe for Gulab jamun which I won't share with anyone!

That recipe makes the gulab jamun very soft. Kaju-badam katli has been made with less sugar and rava laddo is mandatory for Deepavali.



Gift old saris, dupattas for Mylapore Festival 2025

Do you have old saris or dupattas which you can spare to make flags for the oncoming Sundaram Finance Mylapore Festival in January 2025?

Then you may want to gift them now.

Rajeswari R who makes some lovely lifestyle accessories from 'bit' cloth, plans to produce some 50 mts of flag buntings which will be used to decorate some festival venues in the Sri Kapali Temple precincts.

She needs nine saris / dupattas, preferably cotton and in strong

colours of red, yellow, orange, green and blue majorly. They should not be worn-out or stained.

These can be dropped off at Mylapore Times office (11 am to 5 pm at 77, C P Ramaswamy Road, Alwarpet or MT staff can pick it up - call 2498 2244 to brief staff.



Children took the stage at this church service

By Fabiola Jacob

World Sunday School Day, which falls on the first Sunday in November every year, was celebrated as Children's Sunday in the morning worship service at CSI St. Thomas English Church on November 3.

The Sunday School children and teachers took an active role in the worship, singing songs, acting out a skit, and reading Scripture and the liturgy.

Roopa Daniel, a Sunday School teacher,

delivered the sermon, and the Presbyterian, Rev. Anitha Christian, was the celebrant.

Since last August, the Church has started a Sunday School in Tamil, for the benefit of the children in the neighbourhood. The children from the Tamil class also joined in the service.

Children from Street Vision Home - an NGO that works to uplift the lives of underprivileged children - also participated. A children's retreat was held after the service.

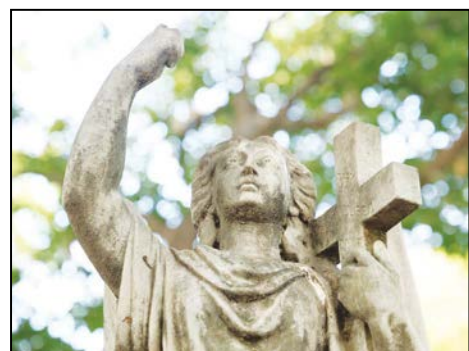
Photo: George Shanthakumar



PEACEFUL PLACE TO REST

J. P. Chandra Babu, India's famed actor known for his unique acting and singing style, died some 50 years ago. His tombstone at the Quibble Island Cemetery in MRC Nagar remains a draw even to this day.

On the morning of November 2, the day Christians commemorate All Souls Day and pray for their loved ones who are now more, there were fresh flowers on Chandra Babu's grave stone; we couldn't know if they were laid there by family or well-wishers.



Quibble is an old-world kind of cemetery. That vintage feel is limited now only to a patch on either side of the central pathway.

On November 2, there were lots of people at the tombs of their family members, laying flowers, burning candles and saying a prayer or the rosary.

Most were seen in the eastern half of the campus, where graves have been used in recent decades. Many choc-a-bloc, making good use of the limited plot.

Quibble does not have space for new graves now; family graves are numbered and re-used today.



But in some corners, heritage survives. Solid, simply-carved gravestones sinking into the earth in some places, a solitary mausoleum of the 19th century still weathering on for a family of the colonial era and the long row of graves of the same size and colour, of nuns of a particular congregation.

The cemetery gets visitors through the year. Catholics and Protestants, visiting to pray for their loved ones.

The campus is fairly well-maintained and is a quiet place though on the summer days, the stink of the polluted backwaters of the Adyar estuary which borders an edge here, assaults you.

At Ekadaksha, Deepavali was stories and simple fun. No crackers

At Ekadaksha Learning Centre in Mandaveli, this Deepavali was celebrated with no noise of crackers but small shows that carried a message of a safe and peaceful festival.

Many children with disabilities who are trained here have difficulties during this festival due to the noise of crackers and the pollution due to the smoke, says staff here.

"Some of them do enjoy the colours and sweets, but for many the huge amount of noise disturbs their entire system," said a ELC staff.

Teachers at ELC dressed in costumes to share the stories behind Deepavali and about



crackers and sweets making and sharing. And the students and their guardians related to the stories in their own ways.

CREATIVE WORKSHOPS

Sahanas in Mylapore promotes art as a lifestyle. It offers one-on-one music classes, a recording studio for creators and podcasters, an event space, and a workshop area.

This November, there are three workshops here.

Address - No. 15, First floor-Unit-2, D'Silva Road, Mylapore. Ph: 6381230739



Jambu's Mylapore

K. R. Jambunathan takes us through nooks and corners of the Mylapore he knows best in this video series. This is a weekly series. WATCH VIDEOS at www.youtube.com/mylaporetv

Bazaar Road

Bazaar Road has a fascinating history. It may look narrow and bustling to all but it is a key road.

The road that linked the Mylapore-Mandaveli areas to Triplicane. You can even get to Mount Road / Anna Salai from here.

Two old villages of yore were linked here. The road everybody used. Where markets sprung up. Where that heritage still remains.

The oil extraction mills where man and animal toiled. The zari embroidery shops. The meat and poultry and eggs shops.

Even references to vestiges of the Portuguese era in San Thome whose zone covered these streets in the 16th century.

One fascinating social history that has deep roots here is of the small Jain community, whose ancestors arrived here on foot all the way from the western desert region. Their elaborate houses, very few survive, tell stories of a grand era..

DO YOU HAVE A BAZAAR ROAD STORY? WhatsApp - 7305630727

Scan here to watch Jambu's Video



Playing Pickleball in Mandaveli

By V. A. Amithaneyan

In Mandaveli's 4th Trust Cross Road a pickleball court called Picklerss by Sports Den.

If you haven't heard of pickleball, it is a game similar to tennis and table tennis. Pickleball is a new sport and it is easy to play compared to other racquet games.

Pickleball is popular in a few other countries. Chennai now holds a pickleball tournament every week.

The Mandaveli court is open 24 x 7. For one hour, the players are charged Rs. 600.

Four players can play at a time. Non-marking shoes alone are allowed in the court.

Siddarth from R A Puram has been playing pickleball



since June, 2024 says he came here since he was keen to learn a new sport. He runs a badminton academy in a few places in Chennai.

Many players play pickleball from 6 p.m. to midnight. Another player, Archana from Adyar who works as a teacher said she comes here in the afternoons on weekdays and mornings on weekends. "It was a little challenging to play and then it became easy," she said.

Players can book courts using the Turf Town App. Further contact: 98402 94518



On rain-washed evening, a charming Soora Samharam spectacle

By Our Edit Team

It had rained, fairly well, and stopped; one could watch the dull, sliver of the moon in the November 7 skies above Sri Kapali Temple.

It was the day of Soorasamharam of the annual Skanda Sashti fest here; North Mada Street was barricaded for the drama that was to unfold.

By 7 p.m., there were some 5000 people lined on either side of this busy road; many bored ones dipping into their phones and randomly staring at images and memes.

Then, the distant roll of drums and the burst of crackers sounded the procession of lord Muruga, on R K Mutt Road. The mobile commentators, temple staff, worked up the crowd and gave out orders and advice.

At around 7.30, the lord, seated in a grand 'ther' (chariot) of flowers and alan-karam, arrived and relaxed



at spot, off the temple's tank side. Hundreds of phones popped up, people prayed deeply and then began the drama.

Karpagam Lakshmi Suresh took charge as official commentator and was in fine flow though her lines were not often aligned with the action.

The drama of the many demons challenging the lord was the spectacle of the evening.

Volunteers changed the masks of a single image, half seated like placed on a palanquin, and walked up to the lord, a man on the palanquin wiggling the head of the mask; the group approached the *ther*, went around it and got back to a point near Ambika Appalam store; a symbolic act of each demon started and ended here.

Children hugging their grandpas or daddy, threw paper balls and some shot pa-

per missiles into the demons and some got it right, to the delight of people around.

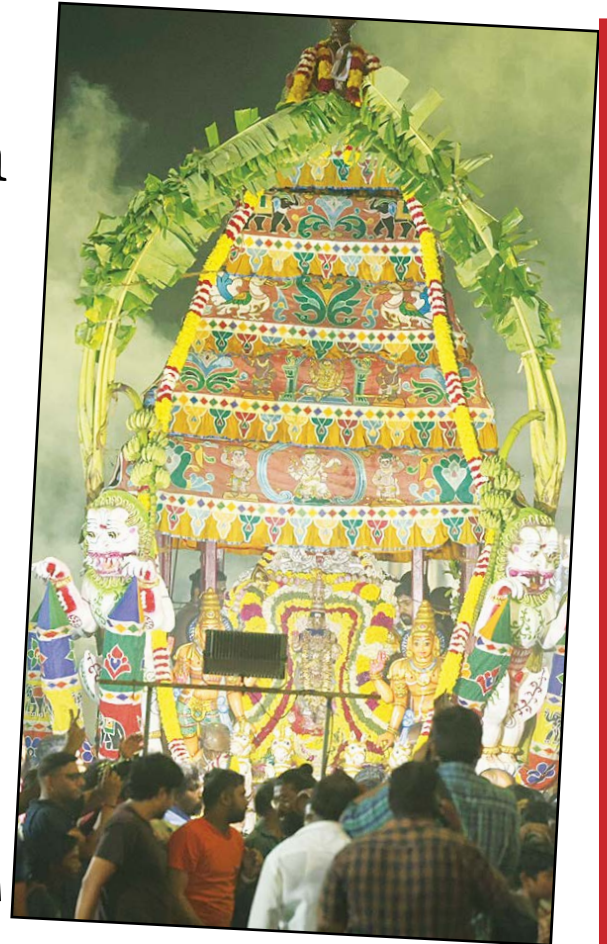
The air was still and stuffy and people sweated but remained patient and finally, when the images of the peacock and fowl, wined up the procession, their little dance on the street to music, evoking delight to those who were keen to enjoy the spectacle, the crowd melted slowly.

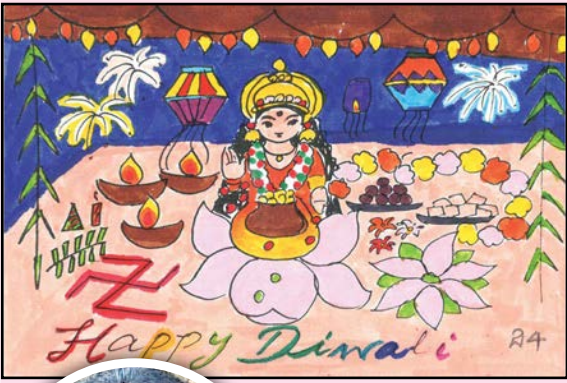
The *mallipoo* hawkers off the road were back in busi-

ness and the Mada Street shop salesmen heaved a sigh of relief, happy the entry to their stores was now free.

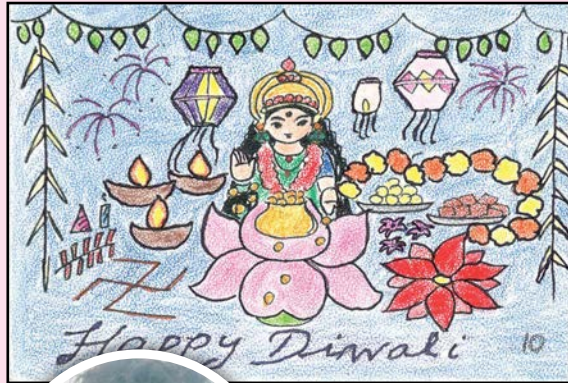
It had been an engaging, well managed event on North Mada Street.

■ DID YOU LIKE READING THIS SPORT REPORT? Comments are welcome!





Ananya sudharsan



S. Mokshita



Prathishta

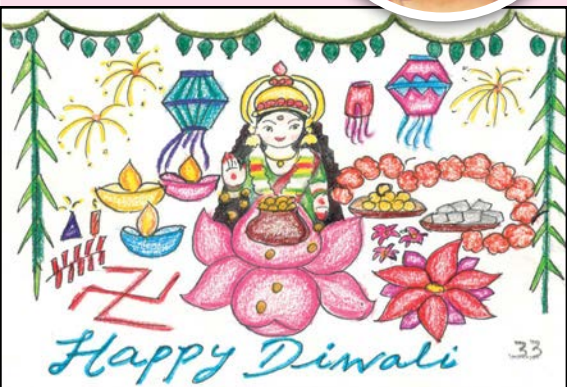


Laksana S

POST CARD COLOURING: TEN WINNERS



Thanishka C



33

By Our Edit team

Ten children of the Mylapore zone who were chosen winners in the Deepavali Post Card Making Contest of *Mylapore Times* were given this Sunday the gifts meant for them last weekend.

The goodies included a palm leaf pen-pencil box, a set of sweets from Deepam and vouchers from JFA, Inch Fit and Sai Supermarket.

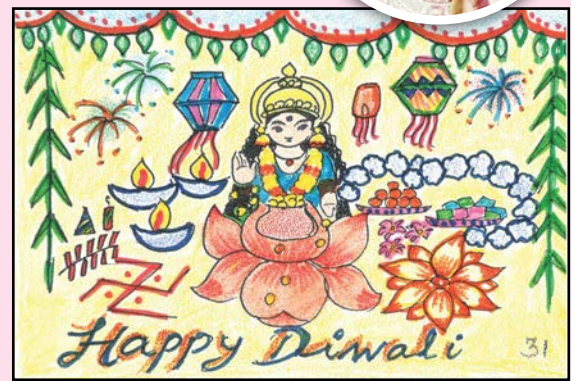
Children had to source a pre-designed card from *Mylapore Times*, colour it well and write a Deepavali message to their loved one. The 59 cards received have all been posted last week at Mylapore Post Office.

Staffers Kathir, Shanthi and Kumar co-ordinated this event.

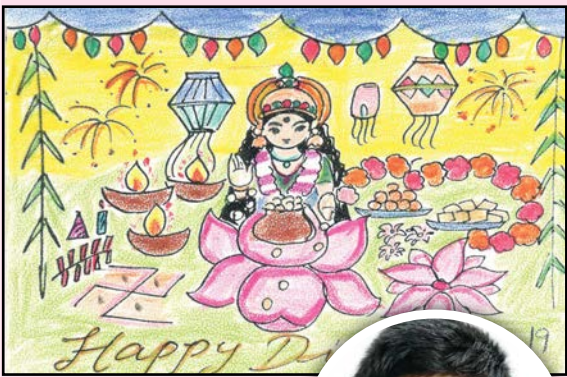
These are the winners -

- Shringa Balaji / Mylapore;
- Mokshita / Mylapore : Prathishta / Mandaveli;
- Maanas / Mylapore: Ananya / Luz Avenue;
- Thanishka C. / Mylapore: Laksana / Alwarpet;
- Advitha / Abhiramapuram: Hiranmayi / Warren Road;
- Meenaakshi / Mylapore

WATCH VIDEO of the winning cards - Scan QR code



31



Maanas Rehan



44

Hiranmayi S Nadathur



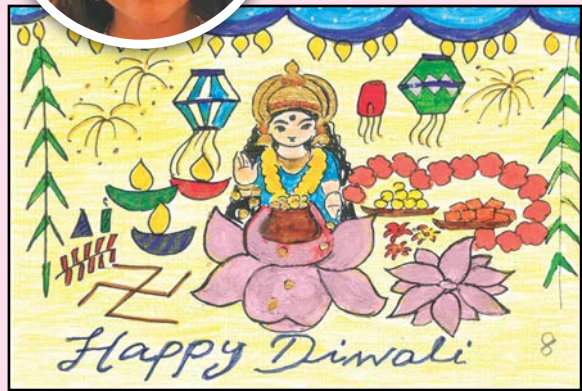
Advitha V



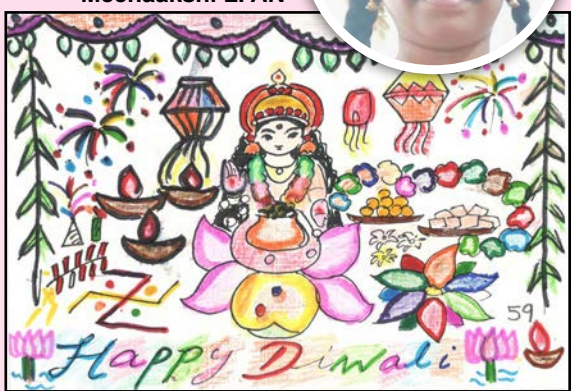
Shringa Balaji



Happy Diwali! 41



Happy Diwali 8



59

Meenaakshi L. AN



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Senior sports journalist, S. Thyagarajan honoured. Hockey correspondent, he covered six Olympics

By Partab Ramchand

The Sports Journalists Federation of India in association with the Tamil Nadu Sports Journalists Association (TNSJA) on October 24 honoured S. Thyagarajan, the 'high priest' of Indian hockey journalism at a warm, informal function at his home in Alwarpet.

A citation and a medal were presented to him for his services to Indian sports journalism.

Thyagarajan, now 83, who retired in 2014, started his career with *The Indian Express* in Madras in 1961 and switched over to *The Hindu* the following year.

He served *The Hindu* newspaper with distinction for over half a century, his CV including covering six Olympics, nine Asian Games competitions and nine hockey World Cup tournaments besides several other

international meets. Though he could write with equal felicity on all sports, it was his writing on hockey that made him well known internationally.

He served on the committees of the International

Indian team that won the gold medal at the Moscow Olympics in 1980.

Later, two other senior sports journalists, V. P. Vijaykumar who was a veteran at *The Indian Express*, a K. K. Nagar resident, and T. R. Ranganathan who worked for *The Hindu* and is a Kasturba Nagar resident, were also honoured by the SJFI.



Hockey Federation (FIH) and the Asian Hockey Federation – AHF.

Thyagarajan was a former president of both SJFI and TNSJA

The function was attended by a dozen active and retired journalists and the gathering included V. Baskaran, the captain of the

In R. A. Puram, a store for everything organic

By V. Shivcharan

In Raja Annamalai Puram's Third Main Road, lies a store that was the result of a man pursuing his dream.

Three years ago, Sathya Narayanan was working as a solar technician in Abhiramapuram. He had an intense passion for organic farming and realised the business potential of it.

STUDENTS REPORT

He said he toiled for three hard years to establish his first retail outlet called Vikash Organic.

He said that he now has a booming business and a WhatsApp group with more than two hundred and ninety members.

He sells farm fresh, pesticide and fertilizer free organic food.



He also has his own, designated kitchen for preparing homemade batter, chappatis and snacks.

He also has a rooftop, mini garden, where he grows organic fruits and vegetables such as Dragon fruit, mango, mint, banana, papaya and ladies finger.

He also sources many vegetables from Ooty and Bangalore. They also sell cold-pressed cooking oil, millets and varieties of rice and coffee powder.

His mother Kotteswari helps in the production and sales.

Contact: Vikas Organic: - 14,3rd Main Road R. A. Puram. 919840721721

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